



FEMA



Prepared by
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FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, February 21, 2019

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Summary of the Upcoming Week



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Today

- Heavy rainfall/flash flooding expected over extreme NE LA and extreme SE AR.
 - Some heavy rain/flash flooding possible into SE AR and N LA.
- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across E NM, W TX and the W TX Panhandle.
- Snow begins in N and W NM; travel impacts likely tonight into Friday.

Friday

- Travel impacts likely along I-40 and U.S. 550 in NM due to accumulating snow.
- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across E NM, W TX, W TX Panhandle
- Severe storms possible Friday into the overnight hours over SE OK, NE TX, AR and N LA; damaging winds and hail are the main threats, an isolated tornado possible.
- Heavy rain/flash flood potential continues over E AR.

Saturday

- Severe thunderstorms possible across AR, SE OK, NE TX, & Northern/Central LA. Damaging winds, large hail, and some tornadoes will be possible. Greatest threat exists over AR
- Some lingering heavy rain possible over ArkLaTex and AR
- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across SW TX, the TX Big Bend, and Rio Grande Plains.
- Travel impacts likely to remain over NM but the snow will be ending.

Sunday - Monday

- No significant weather impacts expected.

River Flooding

- There are several points that are in, or forecast to rise into, major flood stage.
 - In NE AR, the MS River at Osceola is in Major flood and will continue to rise through the middle of next week. Mostly agricultural impacts are expected and farm roads are under water.
 - The Cache River at Patterson, AR has risen into Major Flood this morning and will remain in major flood through the weekend at least. Many roads are likely to be under water, but the crest is forecast to be below the levee protection for the area.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Feb 21, 2019 – Feb 25, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms		SE OK, NE TX N LA, AR	SE OK, NE TX, LA AR		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	Extreme SE AR, Extreme NE LA SE AR, N LA	E AR	AR		
Winter Weather	N & W NM	N & W NM			
Fire Weather	E NM, W TX, W TX Panhandle	E NM, W TX, W TX Panhandle	TX Big Bend, SW TX, Rio Grande Plains		
River Flooding	NE AR AR, LA	NE AR AR, LA	NE AR AR, LA	NE AR AR, LA	NE AR AR, LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

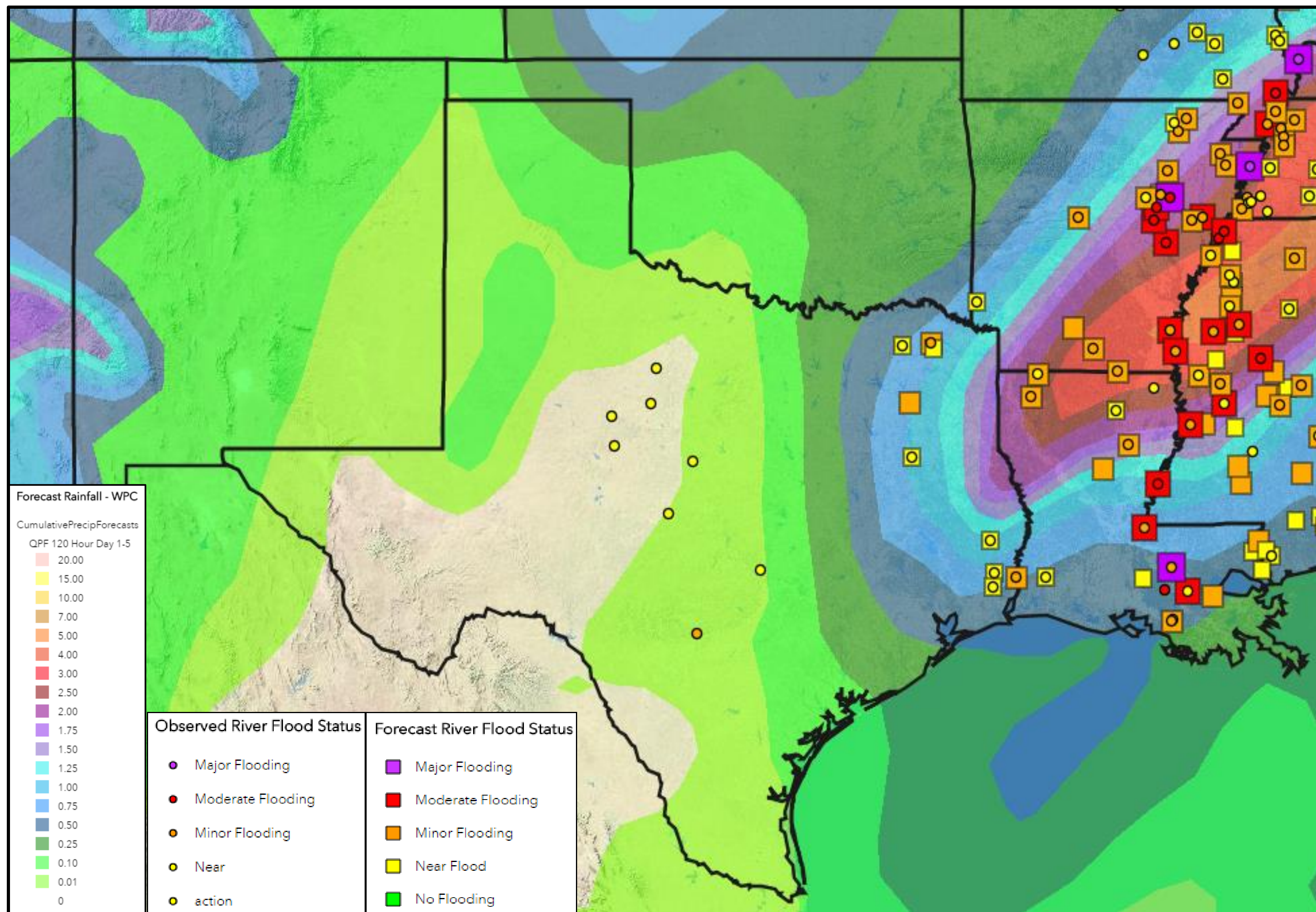
**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



There are a few points in, or forecast to rise into Major Flood Stage:

The MS River at Osceola, AR is in Major flood and will continue to rise through the middle of next week. Mostly agricultural impacts are expected and farm roads are under water.

The Cache River at Patterson, AR has risen into Major Flood this morning and will remain in major flood through the weekend at least. Many roads are likely to be under water, but the crest is forecast to be below the levee protection for the area.

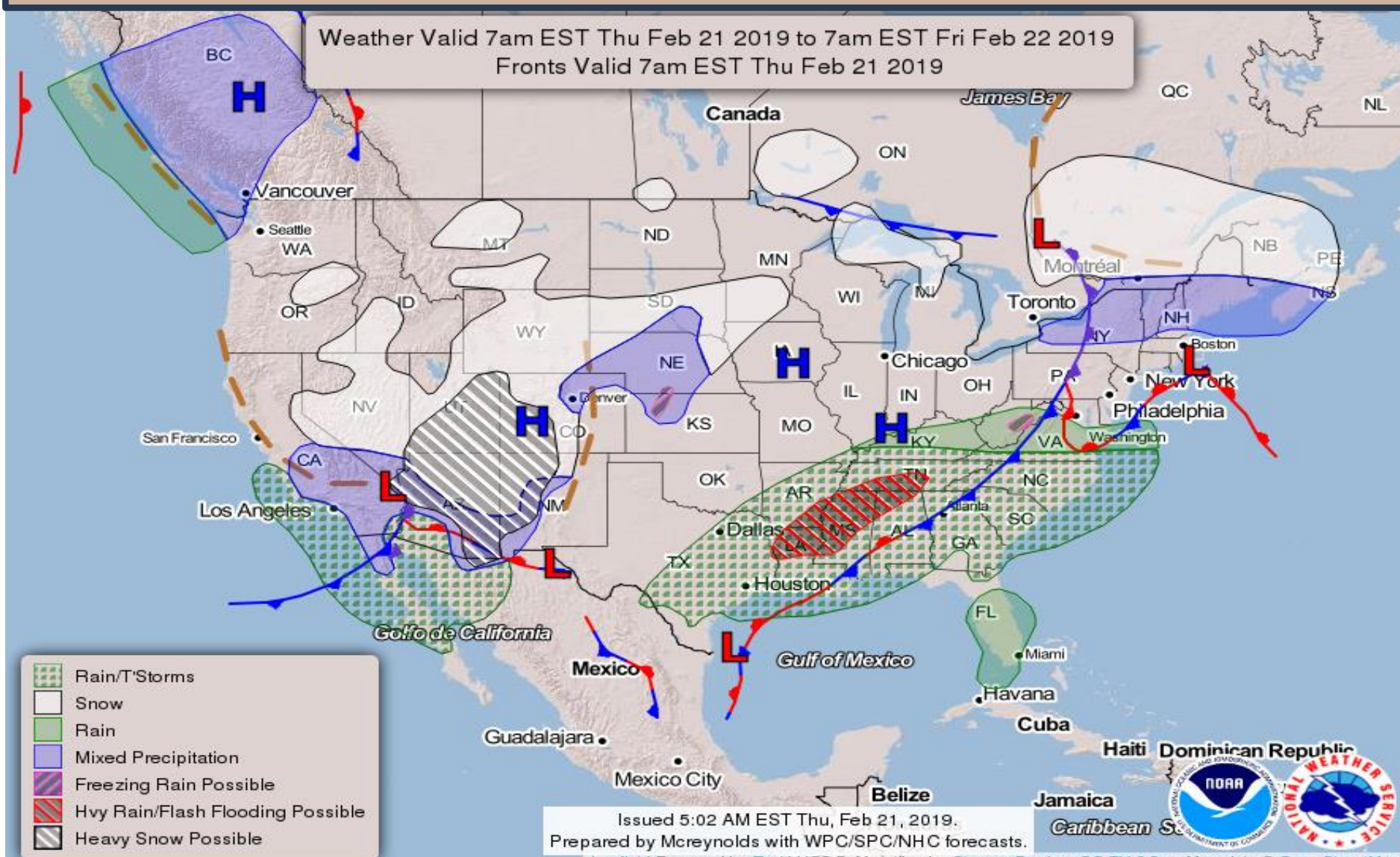
The MS River at Baton Rouge is forecast to continue a slow rise, and into major flood stage late next week; navigation concerns on the river are the main impacts.

Today's Weather

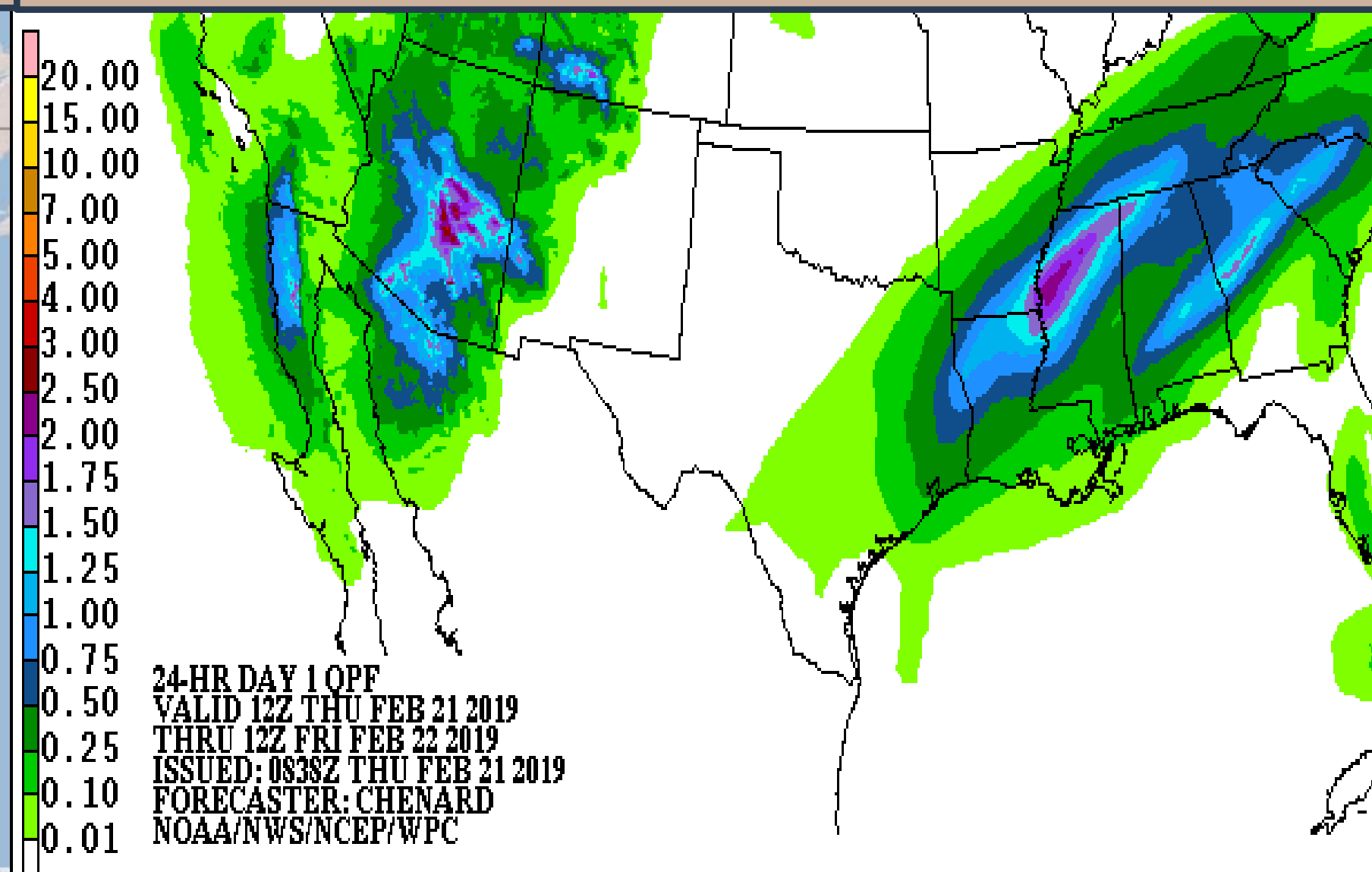


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Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall

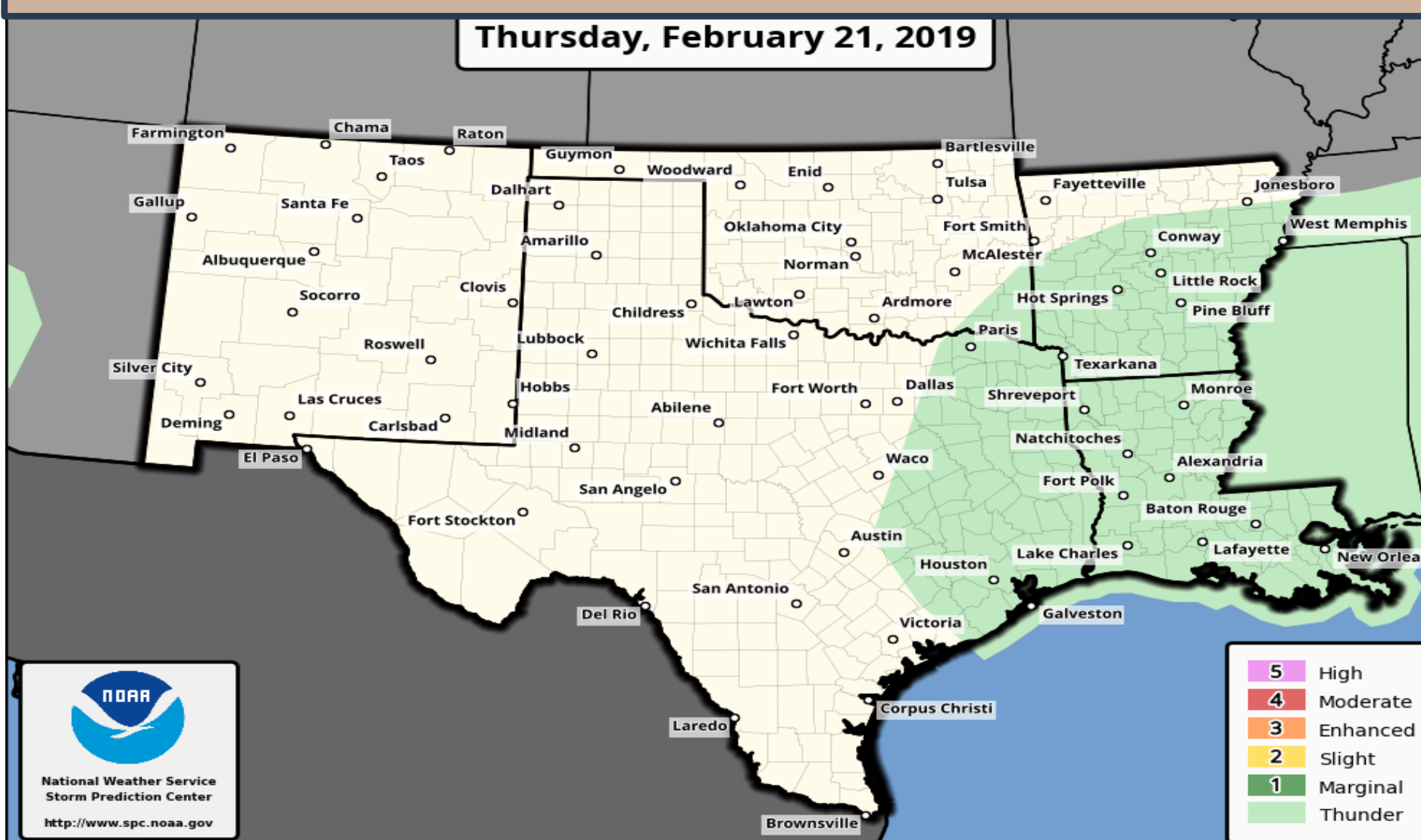


Heavy rainfall/flash flooding expected over NE LA and extreme SE AR.

Some heavy rain/flash flooding possible into SE AR and N LA.

Snow begins in N and W NM; travel impacts likely tonight into Friday.

Severe Weather Outlook



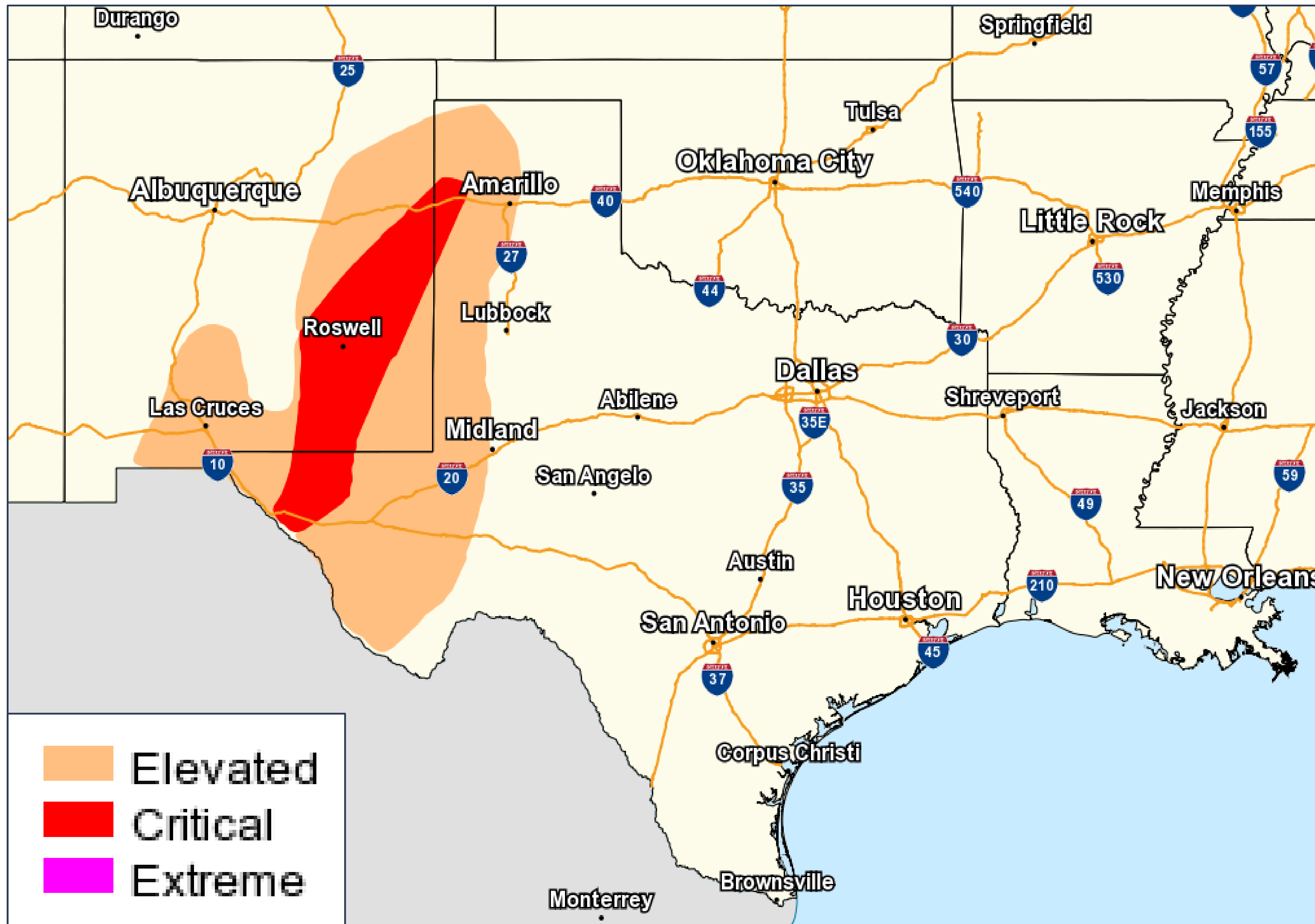
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated to critical fire weather conditions
across E NM, W TX and the W TX Panhandle.**

Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Fire Weather



Graphic Created

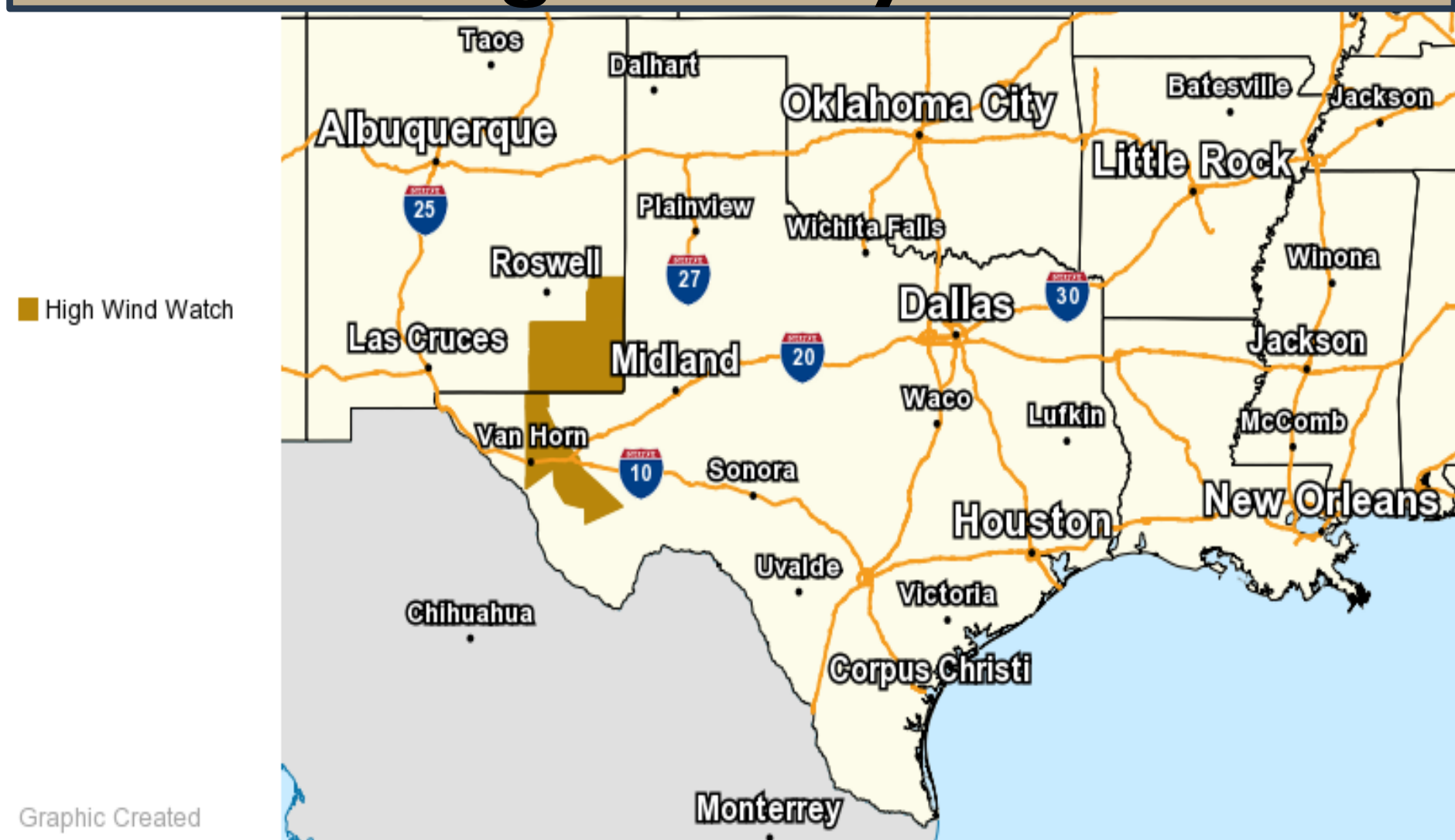
Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

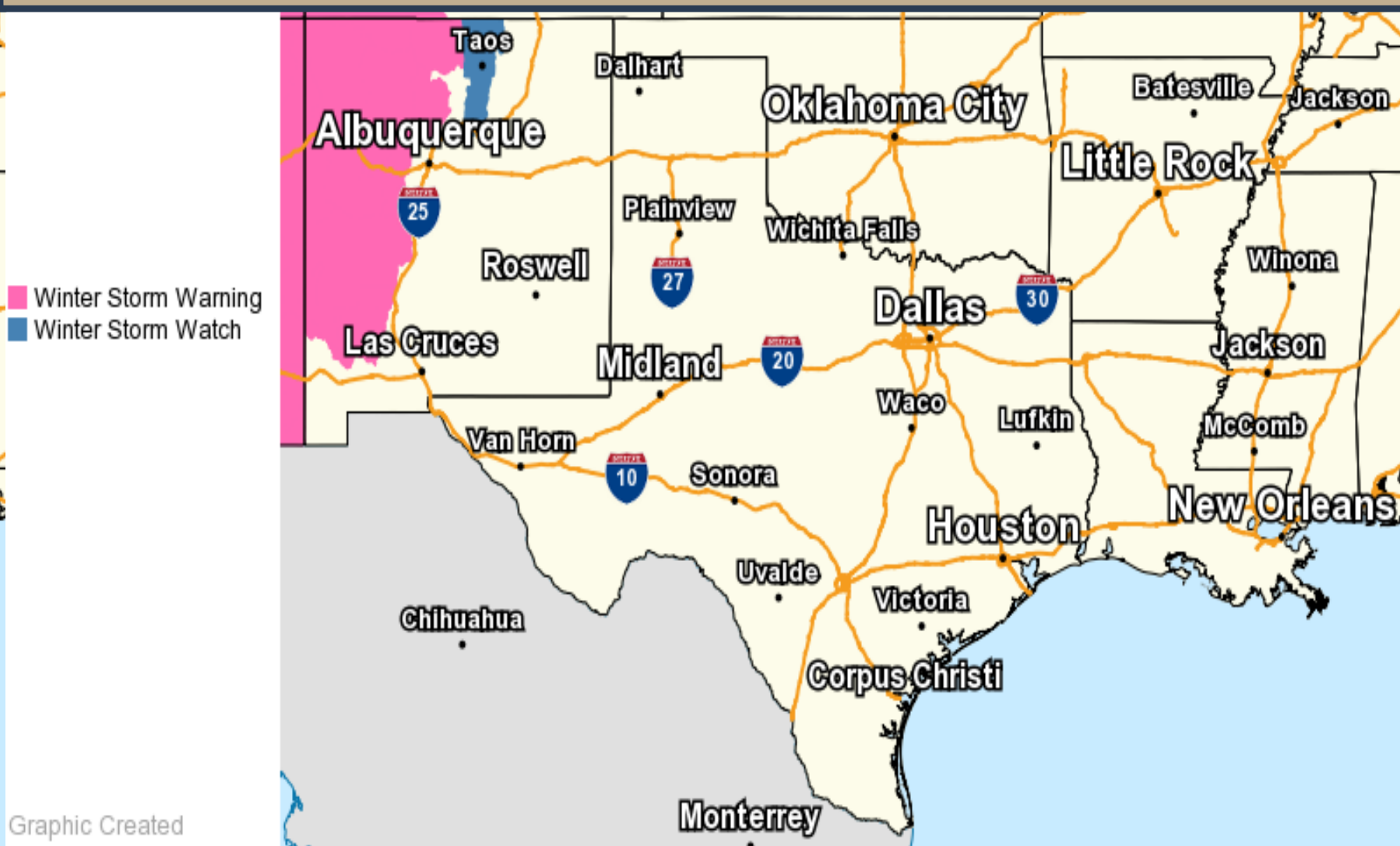
Winter Storm Warnings in effect over W NM through Saturday morning; travel impacts are likely with total snow accumulations of 3-10 inches, and 10-20 inches above 7500 feet.

Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

Winter Weather



Graphic Created

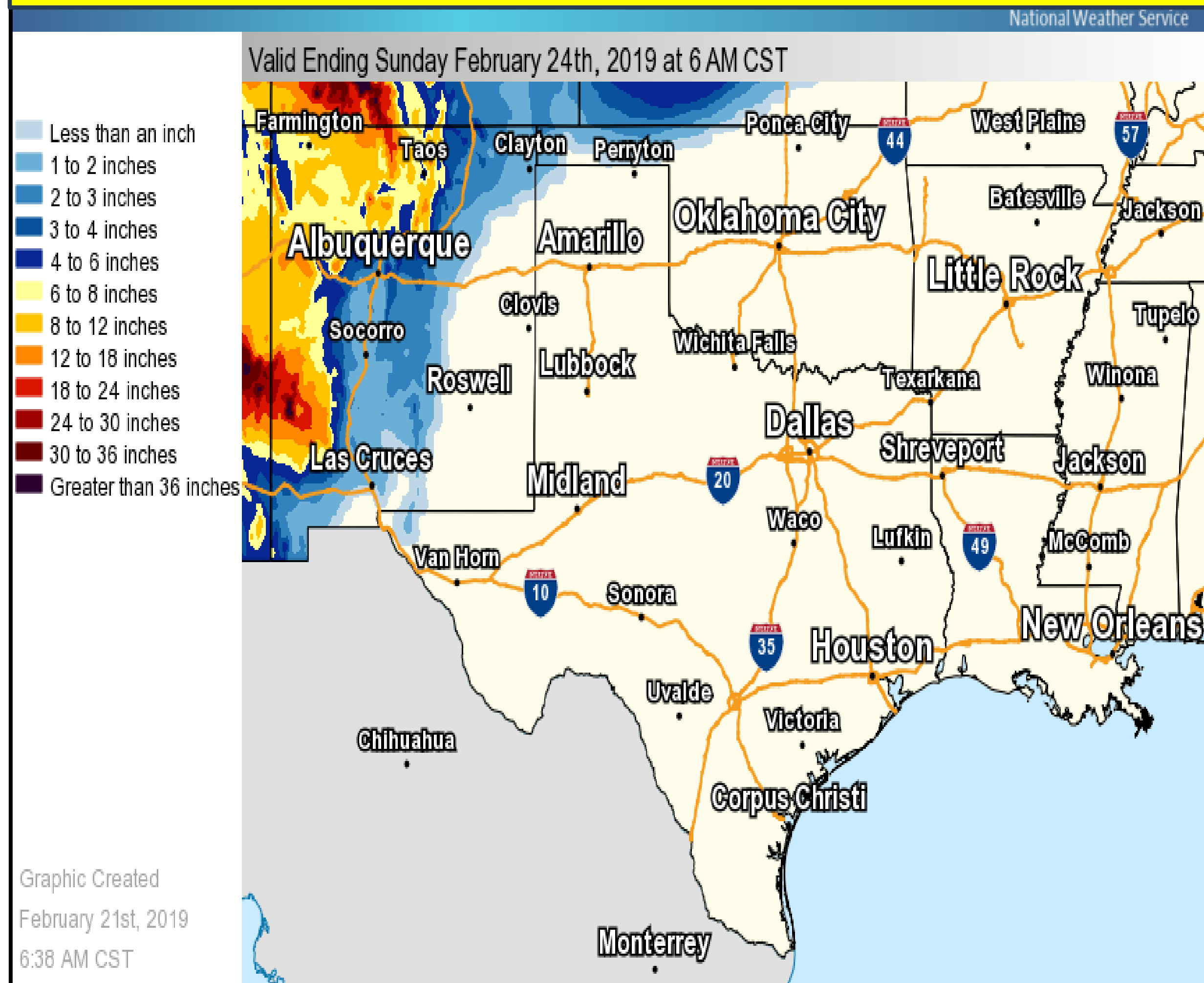
Winter Weather

Note: Snow and Ice Accumulations Days 1 through 3

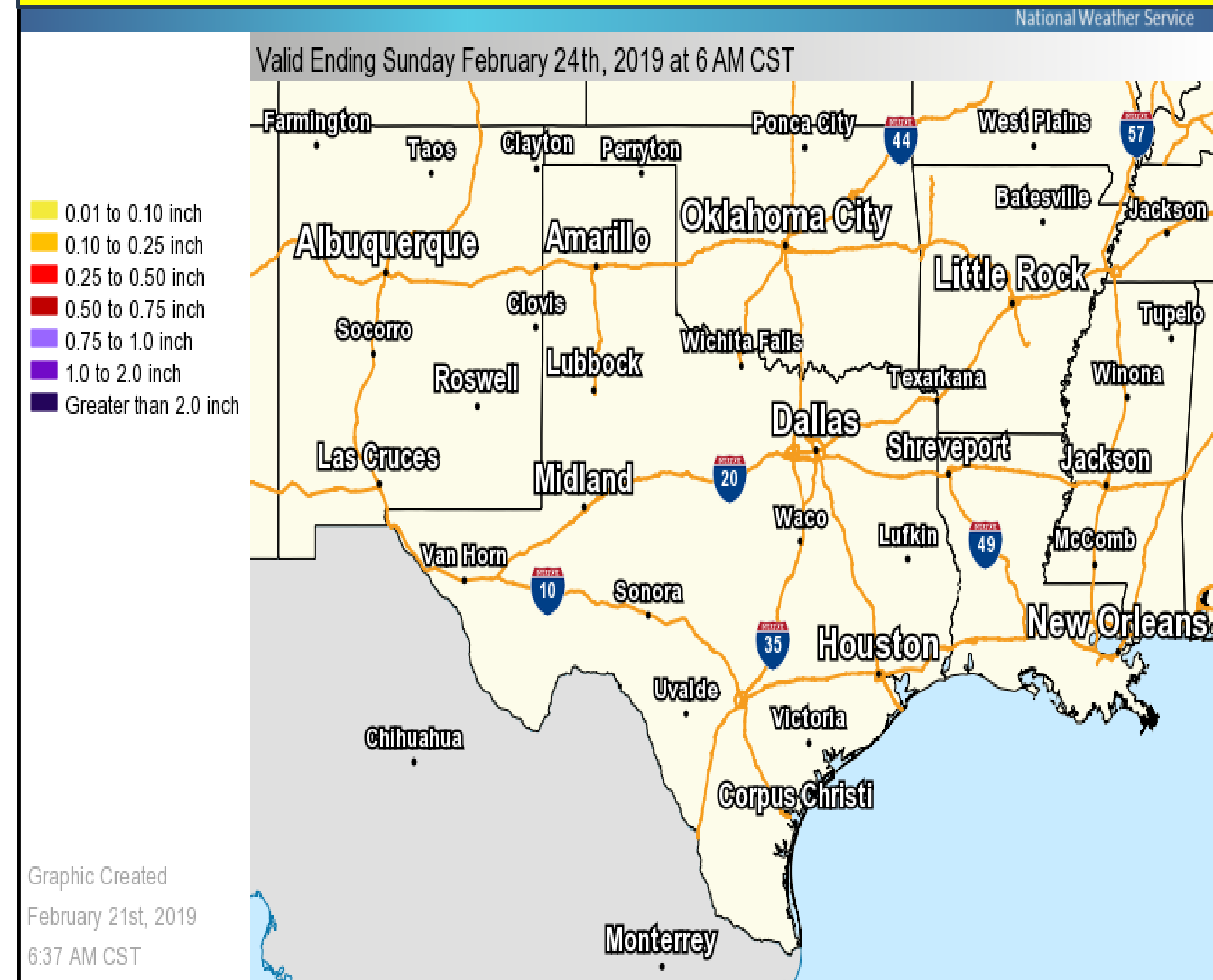


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Forecast Snowfall Amounts



Forecast Ice Amounts



Tomorrow's Weather



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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

Travel impacts likely along I-40 and U.S. 550 in NM due to accumulating snow.

Heavy rain/flash flood potential continues over E AR.

Severe storms possible Friday into the overnight hours over SE OK, NE TX, AR and N LA; damaging winds and hail are the main threats, an isolated tornado possible.

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Friday, February 22, 2019

Marginal
Slight
Moderate
High

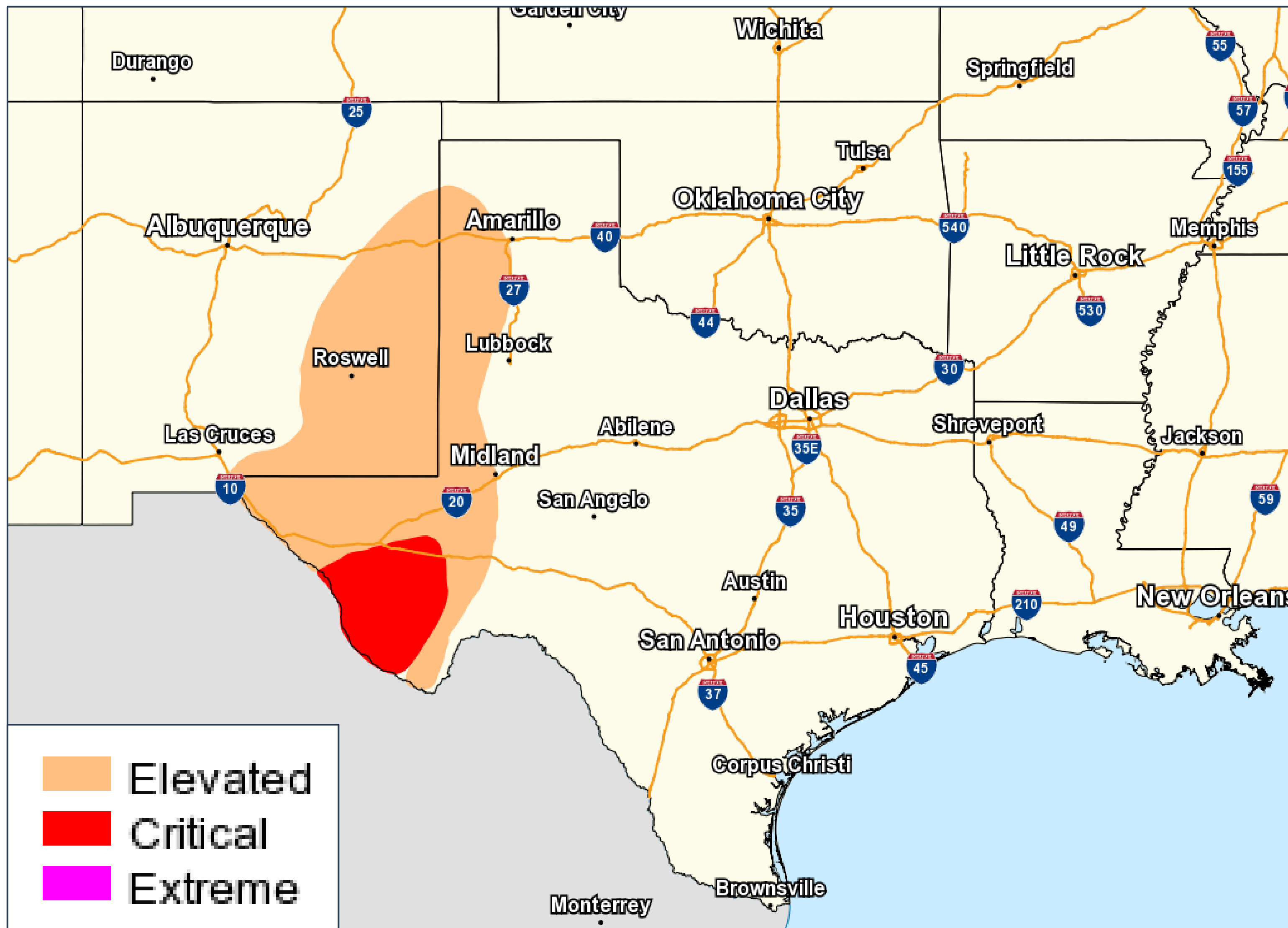
5 High
4 Moderate
3 Enhanced
2 Slight
1 Marginal
Thunder

Graphic Created
January 21st, 2019
AM CST

Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



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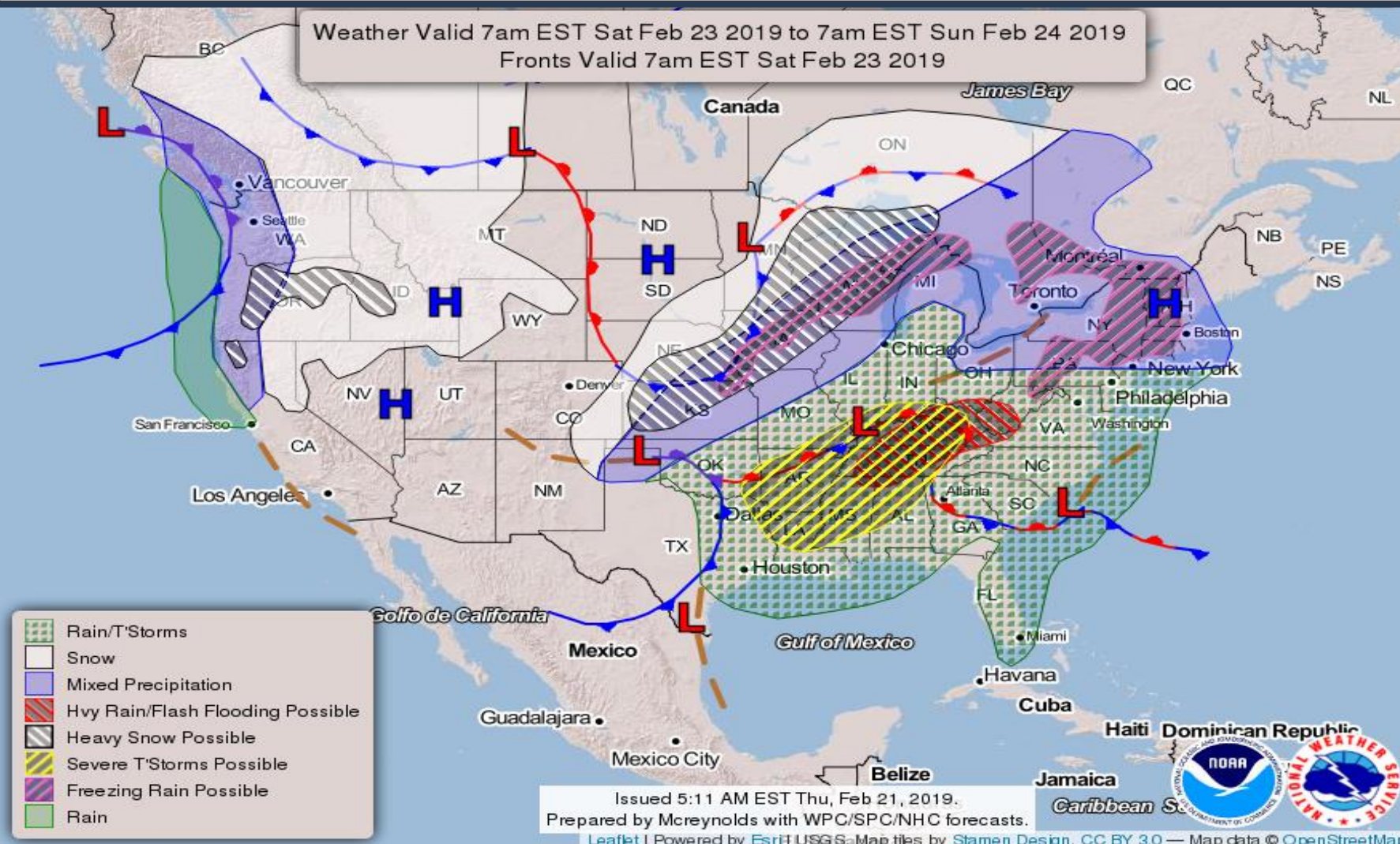
**Elevated to critical fire weather conditions
over E NM, W TX, W TX Panhandle**

Saturday's Weather

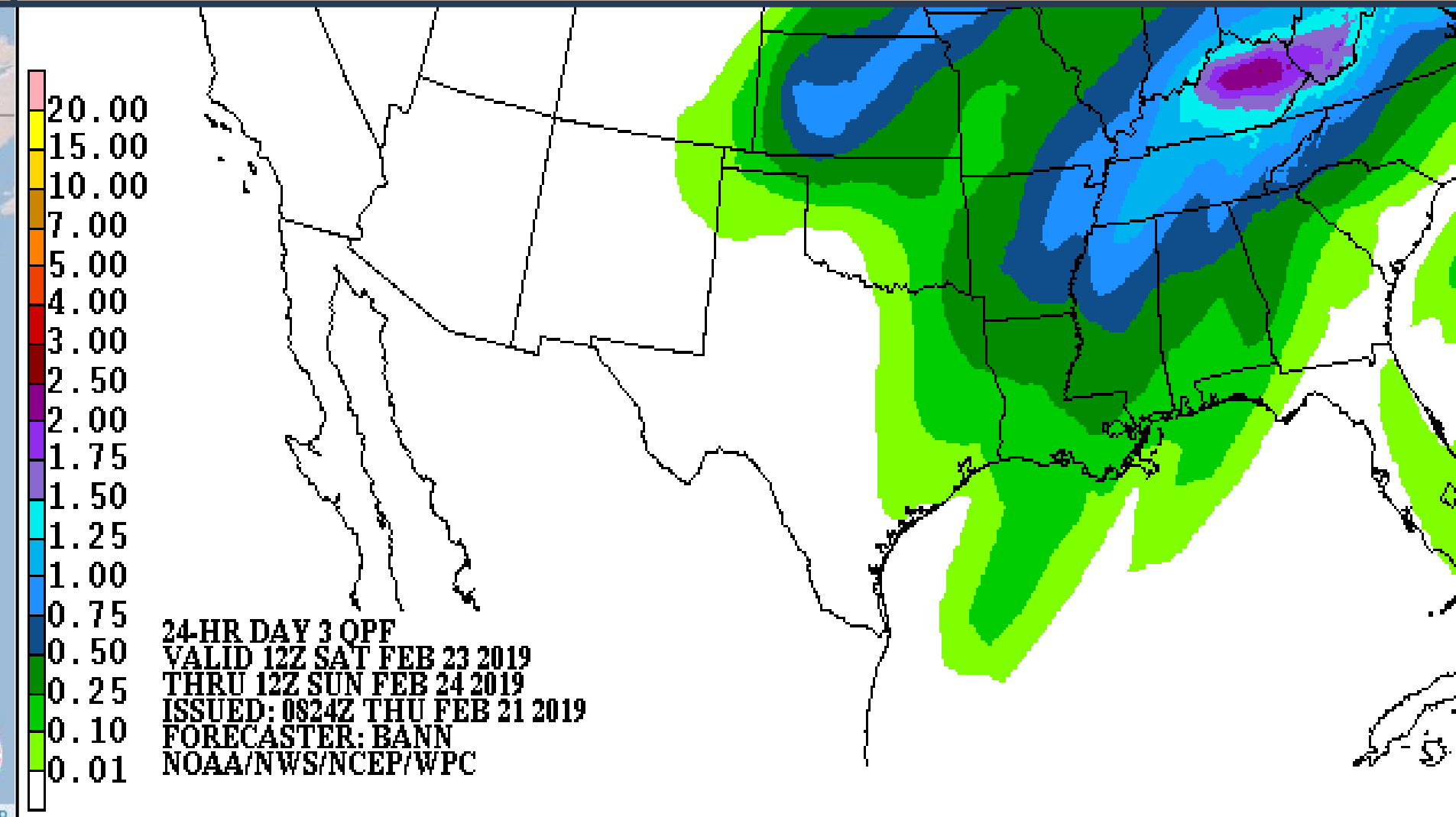


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Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall



Travel impacts likely to remain over NM but the snow will be ending.

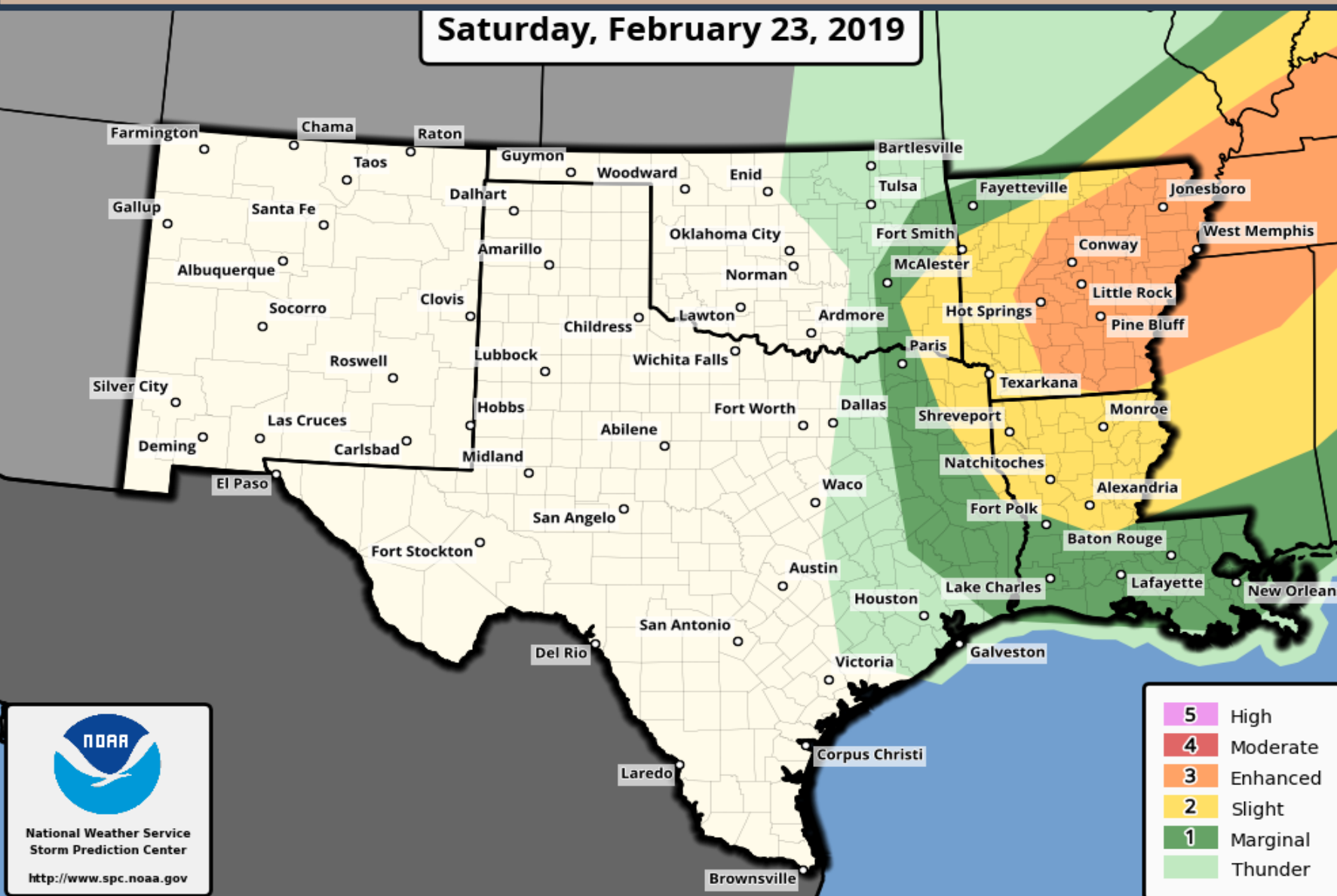
Some lingering heavy rain possible over the ArkaLaTex and AR

Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across W TX, the TX Big Bend, and Rio Grande Plains.

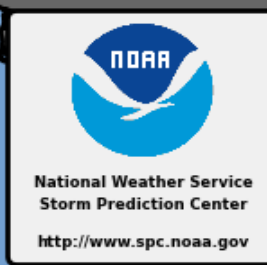
Severe thunderstorms possible over AR, LA, and SE OK and NE TX. Damaging winds, large hail, and tornadoes possible.

Severe Weather Outlook

Saturday, February 23, 2019



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

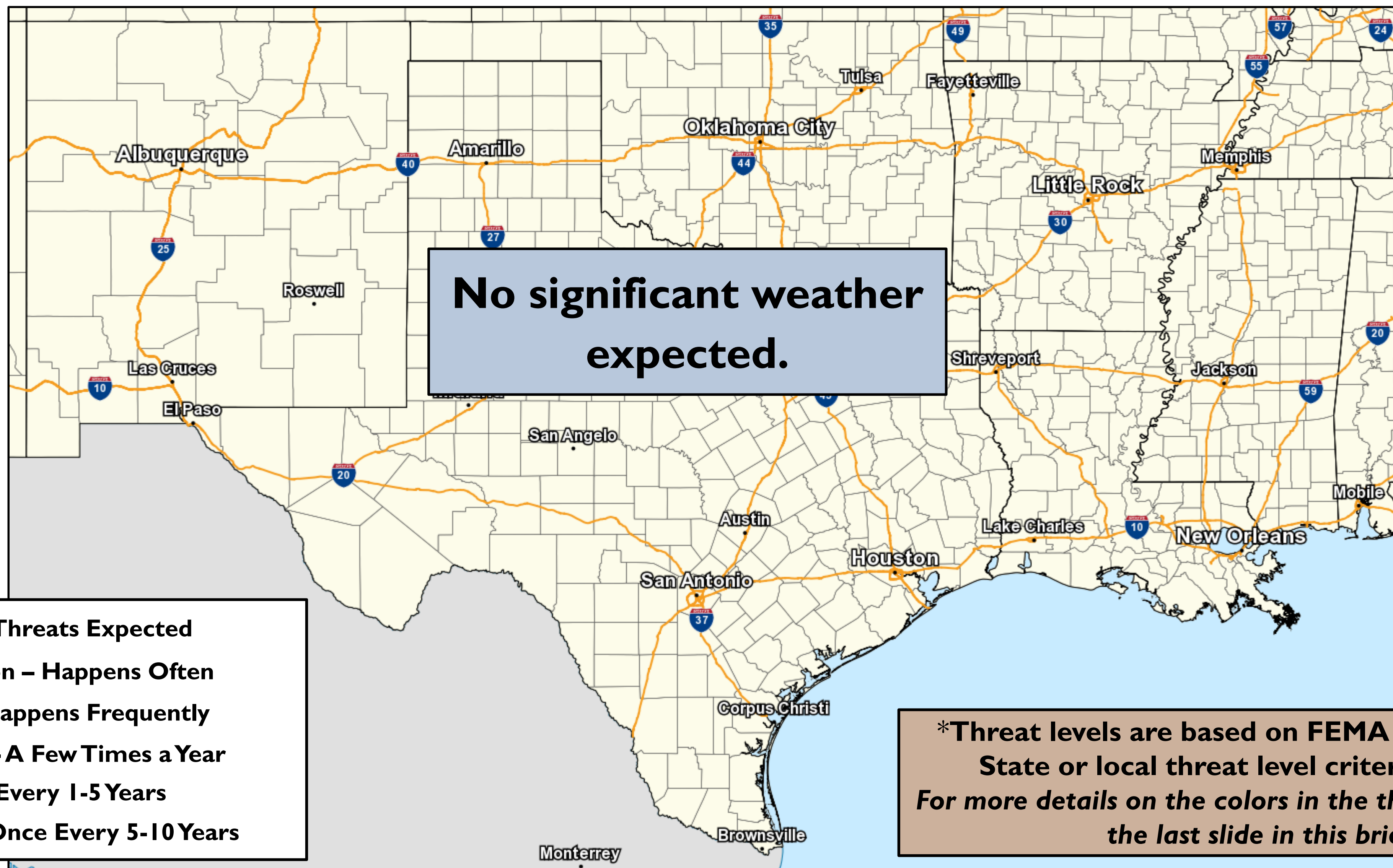


Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday – Monday



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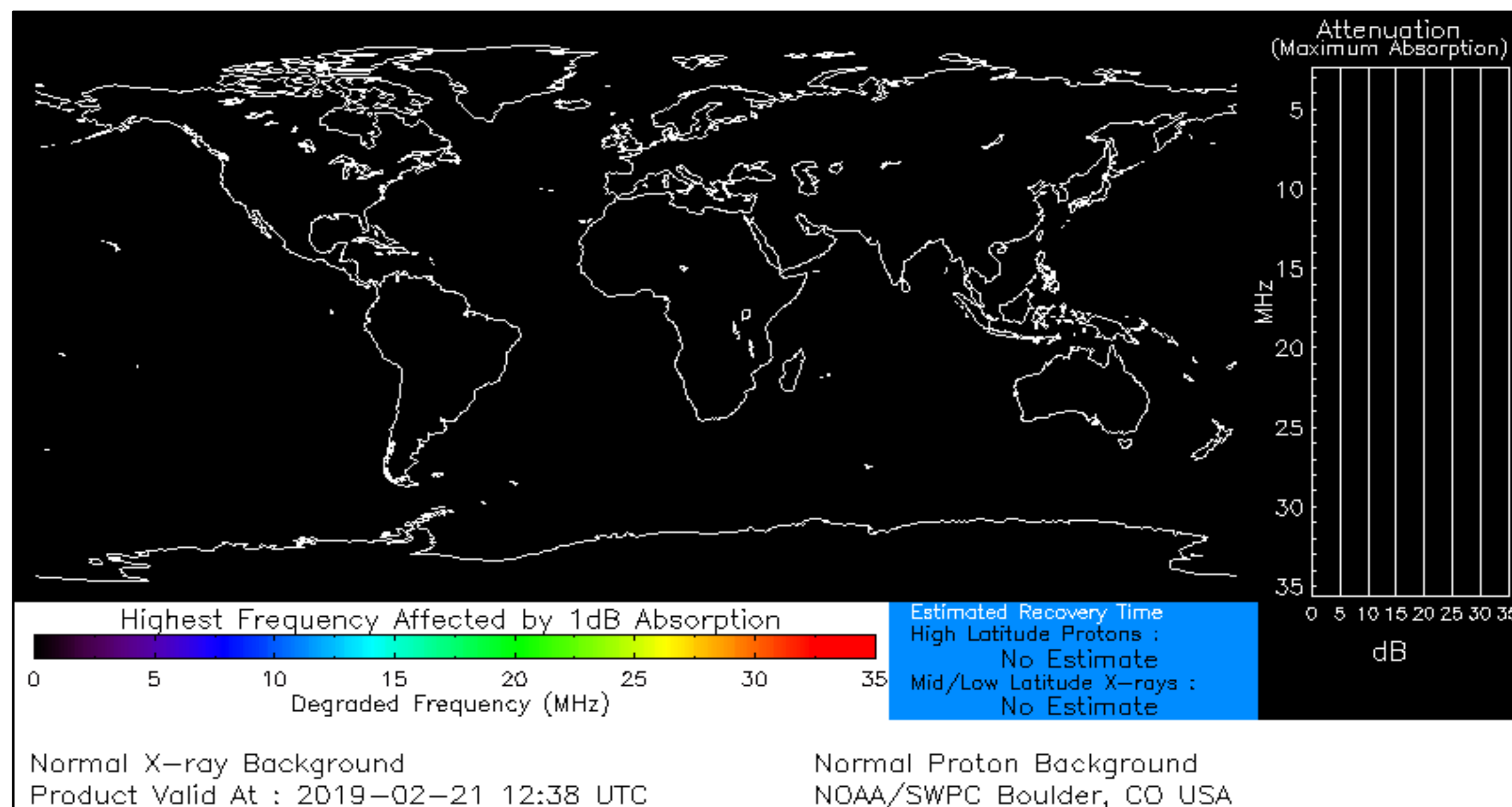


Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



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	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)



2019-02-21 11:52:00 UTC



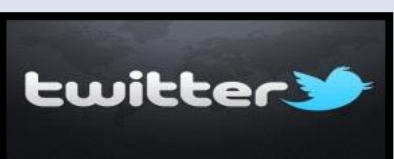
For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov